



Idaho Children's Day: Día de los Niños

Idaho children from past and present generations have dreamed of a day devoted to them and until now it has been just a fantasy. Día de los Niños (Day of the Child) has been celebrated in Latin American countries for many years, and through the efforts of several dedicated individuals, Idaho now has a tangible opportunity to celebrate the role of children and their value in our families and communities. Judge Sergio Gutierrez and Conchi Morales, members of the Governor's Coordinating Council for Families and Children, spearheaded Idaho's effort. With the support of Governor Kempthorne, the **Day of the Child: Día de los Niños**, was signed into law and will be celebrated annually on April 30.

Key legislators, including Representative Elmer Martinez who sponsored the bill, and Representatives Ken Robison, and Darrell Bolz, as well as Senator Marti Calabretta kept it moving through the House and Senate during the 2003 session.

The Governor and First Lady encourage communities across Idaho to plan for next year and to join the groundswell of people and organizations that support the healthy and safe development of our children. This celebration is another tangible example of the Governor's "Generation of the Child," and is an opportunity for involvement by all Idaho's citizens. The Governor's emphasis on breaking the cycles of illiteracy, child abuse, poverty and drug abuse includes nurturing and valuing the youngest members of our communities. **Day of the Child: Día de los Niños** celebrates and honors young Idahoans and reminds us of our responsibility to ensure their health and well-being.

Communities and organizations in Idaho that have celebrated **Day of the Child: Día de los Niños** include: American Falls, Boise, Blackfoot, Buhl, Caldwell, Idaho Falls, Idaho City, Jerome, Meridian, Nampa, Pocatello and Star.

For more information on how to implement activities in your community contact:

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